

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for determining and displaying trading trends comprising the steps of:  
2 obtaining market information for an investment underlying one or more options for  
3 two or more time intervals;  
4 calculating an opening value trend using a market trend indicator and the opening  
5 values for the underlying investment;  
6 calculating a closing value trend using the market trend indicator and the closing  
7 values for the underlying investment; and  
8 displaying a visual indicator comparing the opening value trend to the closing value  
9 trend for the underlying investment.
- 1 2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the opening value is an opening price and  
2 the closing value is a closing price.
- 1 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the opening value is an opening trading  
2 volume and the closing value is a closing volume.
- 1 4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator is a first color  
2 whenever the closing value trend is greater than the opening value trend.
- 1 5. The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the first color is green.
- 1 6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator is a second color  
2 whenever the closing value trend is lower than the opening value trend.
- 1 7. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the second color is red.
- 1 8. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator displays the time  
2 interval.
- 1 9. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the  
2 opening value trend as a first line and the closing value trend as a second line in a graph.
- 1 10. The method as recited in claim 9, further comprising the step of displaying a list of  
2 information about a point selected on either the first line or the second line.

1 11. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the market trend indicator comprises one or  
2 more regression algorithms selected from: stochastics, relative strength, directional  
3 movement, commodity channel, simple average, exponential average weighted average,  
4 MACD (simple), MACD (exponential), momentum/ROC, midrange, William's %R,  
5 parabolic stop, volatility stop, trailing stop, high low stop, Bollinger Bands, Keltner Channel,  
6 uniform channel, regression channel, swing lines, cycle forecast, on balance volume, overlay  
7 chart, point & figure, moving average, moving linear regression, upper envelope, lower  
8 envelope, %K, %D, %D slow, %D averaged, %R, RSI, momentum, acceleration, moving  
9 average oscillator, moving average momentum, moving average convergence-divergence  
10 oscillator, moving average convergence-divergence, MACD signal line, commodity channel  
11 index, rate of change in prices, on balance volume variance, standard deviation, volatility  
12 ratio, volatility, skew, kurtosis, Williams Accumulated Distribution, Arm's Ease of  
13 Movement, plus directional indicator, minus directional indicator, directional movement and  
14 average directional movement.

1 12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the opening value trend is calculated  
2 without using the opening value from the most recent time interval.

1 13. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2 selecting a market information source; and  
3 communicably connecting to the market information source.

1 14. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of executing a trade  
2 involving one of the options for the underlying investment.

1 15. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of simulating an  
2 execution of a trade involving one of the options for the underlying investment.

1 16. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating a potential  
2 tax liability for an execution of a trade involving one of the options for the underlying  
3 investment.

1 17. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of searching for one or  
2 more investment trading opportunities based on one or more search criteria.

- 1 18. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting the time  
2 interval.
- 1 19. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the time interval is a preset time based on a  
2 user profile.
- 1 20. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of repeating the steps of  
2 obtaining the market information, calculating the opening value trend and the closing value  
3 trend, and displaying the visual indicator for a set of different time intervals.
- 1 21. The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the set of different time intervals  
2 comprises daily, weekly and monthly intervals.
- 1 22. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of repeating the steps of  
2 obtaining the market information, calculating the opening value trend and the closing value  
3 trend, and displaying the visual indicator for two or more options.
- 1 23. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of updating the opening  
2 values, the closing values, the opening value trend, the closing value trend and the visual  
3 indicator.
- 1 24. The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising the step of signaling a user  
2 whenever the visual indicator changes.
- 1 25. A computer program embodied in a computer readable medium for determining and  
2 displaying trading trends comprising:  
3 a code segment for obtaining market information for an investment underlying one or  
4 more options for two or more time intervals;  
5 a code segment for calculating an opening value trend using a market trend indicator  
6 and the opening values for the underlying investment;  
7 a code segment for calculating a closing value trend using the market trend indicator  
8 and the closing values for the underlying investment; and  
9 a code segment for displaying a visual indicator comparing the opening value trend to  
10 the closing value trend for the underlying investment.

1 26. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 displaying the opening value trend as a first line and the closing value trend as a second line  
3 in a graph.

1 27. The computer program as recited in claim 26, further comprising a code segment for  
2 displaying a list of information about a point selected on either the first line or the second  
3 line.

1 28. The computer program as recited in claim 25, wherein the market trend indicator  
2 comprises one or more regression algorithms selected from: stochastics, relative strength,  
3 directional movement, commodity channel, simple average, exponential average weighted  
4 average, MACD (simple), MACD (exponential), momentum/ROC, midrange, William's %R,  
5 parabolic stop, volatility stop, trailing stop, high low stop, Bollinger Bands, Keltner Channel,  
6 uniform channel, regression channel, swing lines, cycle forecast, on balance volume, overlay  
7 chart, point & figure, moving average, moving linear regression, upper envelope, lower  
8 envelope, %K, %D, %D slow, %D averaged, %R, RSI, momentum, acceleration, moving  
9 average oscillator, moving average momentum, moving average convergence-divergence  
10 oscillator, moving average convergence-divergence, MACD signal line, commodity channel  
11 index, rate of change in prices, on balance volume variance, standard deviation, volatility  
12 ratio, volatility, skew, kurtosis, Williams Accumulated Distribution, Arm's Ease of  
13 Movement, plus directional indicator, minus directional indicator, directional movement and  
14 average directional movement.

1 29. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising:  
2 a code segment for selecting a market information source; and  
3 a code segment for communicably connecting to the market information source.

1 30. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 executing a trade involving one of the options for the underlying investment.

1 31. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 simulating an execution of a trade involving one of the options for the underlying investment.

1 32. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 calculating a potential tax liability for an execution of a trade involving one of the options for  
3 the underlying investment.

1 33. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 searching for one or more investment trading opportunities based on one or more search  
3 criteria.

1 34. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 selecting the time interval.

1 35. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 repeating the steps of obtaining the market information, calculating the opening value trend  
3 and the closing value trend, and displaying the visual indicator for a set of different time  
4 intervals.

1 36. The computer program as recited in claim 25, further comprising a code segment for  
2 repeating the steps of obtaining the market information, calculating the opening value trend  
3 and the closing value trend, and displaying the visual indicator for two or more investments.

1 37. The computer program as recited in claim 25 further comprising a code segment for  
2 updating the opening values, the closing values, the opening value trend, the closing value  
3 trend and the visual indicator.

1 38. The computer program as recited in claim 37 further comprising a code segment for  
2 signaling a user whenever the visual indicator changes.

1 39. An apparatus for determining and displaying trading trends comprising:  
2 a computer communicably connected to a market information source;  
3 a display communicably connected to the computer; and  
4 the computer obtaining market information for an investment underlying one or more  
5 options for two or more time intervals from the market information source, calculating an  
6 opening value trend using a market trend indicator and the opening values for the two or  
7 more options, calculating a closing value trend using the market trend indicator and the  
8 closing values for the two or more options, and displaying a visual indicator comparing the  
9 opening value trend to the closing value trend for the investment on the display.